

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-07 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 NRC-05 /126 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8209

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1163

DISTO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, CCD, US, MX, UR

SUBJECT: CCD: CONSULTATIONS ON PROCEDURES WITH MEXICO

REF: GENEVA 1126

1. US REP MARTIN CALLED AT HIS REQUEST ON HEAD OF MEXICAN CCD DEL, FOREIGN SECRETARY GARCIA ROBLES, FEB 18 TO DISCUSS PROPOSAL FOR COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF CCD PROCEDURES SET OUT IN US OPENING STATEMENT PREVIOUS AFTERNOON. DISCUSSION REVEALED SOME POINTS OF DISAGREEMENT, BUT GARCIA ROBLES WAS BASICALLY QUITE FAVORABLE TO GENERAL IDEA OF PROCEDURAL REVIEW.

2. MARTIN BEGAN CONVERSION BY GINIVING ACCOUNT OF CONSIDERATIONS UNDERLYING US PROPOSAL. HE SAID THAT WHILE US WAS ENTIRELY SATISFIED WITH CCD ARRANGEMENTS AS THEY STOOD, WE RECOGNIZED THAT OTHER MEMBERS DID NOT SHARE THAT SATISFACTION. ACCORDINGLY, WE WANTED
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TO DISCUSS CCD'S PROCEDURES IN THEIR TOTALITY ON COHERENT BASIS,

AND TO CONSIDER EACH ELEMENT OF PROCEDURES AS PART OF OVERALL PACKAGE. IN APPROACHING QUESTION, WE WERE OPEN TO CONSIDERING ALL VIEWS THAT MIGHT BE STATED; HOWEVER, WE REGARDED THREE ASPECTS OF PRESENT CCD ARRANGEMENTS AS ESSENTIAL TO US INTERESTS, NAMELY: (A) TRUE CONSENSUS BASIS FOR COMMITTEE'S DECISIONS; (B) MAINTENANCE OF CCD'S PRESENT SIZE, WHICH WE REGARDED AS MAXIMUM THAT COULD ALLOW IT TO REMAIN A FUNCTIONAL NEGOTIATING BODY, AND CONTINUITY OF MEMBERSHIP, WHICH ENABLED ALL DELS TO BUILD UP AND RETAIN EXPERTISE IN DIFFICULT AND COMPLEX SUBJECT MATTER WITH WHICH COMMITTEE DEALS; AND (C) MAINTENANCE OF THE PRESENT RELATIONSHIP OF THE CCD TO THE UN.

3. GARCIA ROBLES BEGAN REPLY BY NAMING TWO ASPECTS OF US PROPOSAL AS SET FORTH IN INTERVENTION OF FEB 17 ON WHICH HE DIFFERED: (A) HE SAID IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE NOT TO SEEK WRITTEN CODIFICATION OF COMPLETE SET OF RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR CCD UNLESS THEY WERE LABELED PROVISIONAL TO ALLOW FUTURE FLEXIBILITY. GARCIA ROBLES OBSERVED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT UN SECURITY COUNCIL STILL HAS PROVISIONAL RULES AFTER 30 YEARS OF EXISTENCE; HE MAINTAINED THAT CCD WOULD DO WELL TO FOLLOW THAT MODEL. (B) GARCIA ROBLES TOOK ISSUE WITH OBJECTIVE OF COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW, ASSERTING THAT TIME WOULD NOT PERMIT ADEQUATE TREATMENT DURING 1976 CCD SESSION. IT WAS BETTER, HE SAID, TO CONCENTRATE ON MOST IMPORTANT REFORMS.

4. TURNING TO MEXICO'S AFFIRMATIVE AIMS IF REVIEW WERE UNDERTAKEN, GARCIA ROBLES LISTED FOLLOWING: (A) TRANSFERRING RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREPARING CCD'S ANNUAL REPORT FROM CO-CHAIRMEN TO SECRETARIAT. THIS, GARCIA ROBLES MAINTAINED, WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO ALL, SINCE EACH CCD MEMBER WOULD RETAIN RIGHT TO BLOCK INCLUSION IN REPORT OF ANY MATERIAL IT DID NOT ACCEPT AND CO-CHAIRMEN WOULD BE RELIEVED OF BURDEN OF WRITING INITIAL DRAFT OF REPORT AND TRYING TO RECONCILE ALL MEMBERS' VIEWS AND DEMANDS REGARDING TEXT. (B) REVISION OF REPORT FORMAT TO MAKE IT FACTUAL INFORMATIVE DOCUMENT. IN PARTICULAR, GARCIA ROBLES SAID, REPORT SHOULD HAVE EXTENSIVE "DOUBLE" INDEX

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(ENTRIES BY SUBJECT AND COUNTRY); RESPONSIBILITY FOR INDEXING COULD ALSO PASS TO SECRETARIAT. HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT AGREEMENT ON CHANGES IN REPORT COULD READILY BE ACHIEVED. (C) REPLACEMENT OF CO-CHAIRMANSHIP WITH SOME FORM OF ROTATING CHAIRMANSHIP, PERHAPS ON MONTHLY BASIS OR FROM SESSION TO SESSION. (GARCIA ROBLES DID NOT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT LIMITING CHAIRMANSHIP TO

NON-ALIGNED.)

(D) IN CONNECTION WITH CHANGING CHAIRMANSHIP ARRANGEMENTS, GARCIA ROBLES SAID, FRENCH AND CHINESE SHOULD BE SOUNDED OUT BY CCD NON-ALIGNED REGARDING THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD PARTICIPATING UNDER NEW CONDITIONS.

GARCIA-ROBLES EXPRESSED A DEGREE OF OPTIMISM THAT FRANCE WOULD BE INTERESTED, BUT WAS DUBIOUS ABOUT PRC. HE INDICATED THAT MEXICANS WOULD BE WILLING TO APPROACH FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN MEXICO CITY AND MIGHT SOUND OUT NEW CHINESE AMBASSADOR WHEN HE ARRIVED.

(E) GARCIA ROBLES AGREED THAT PRESENT NUMBER OF CCD MEMBERS (31) WAS "MAXIMUM" THAT WOULD PERMIT COMMITTEE TO KEEP ITS FUNCTIONAL CHARACTER AS NEGOTIATING BODY.

(F) CONSENSUS PROCEDURE "OBVIOUSLY" MUST BE RETAINED.

(G) ALTHOUGH NOT MENTIONING IT AFFIRMATIVELY, GARCIA ROBLES DID NOT DISAGREE WITH MARTIN'S POINT ON CCD RELATIONSHIP TO UN.

5. IN RESPONSE TO G-R'S PRESENTATION MARTIN SAID HE SAW POSSIBLE PROBLEM ARISING FROM OUR INTEREST IN HAVING WRITTEN RULES OF PROCEDURE. HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY IN WORKING OUT MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS FOR CCD REPORT. MARTIN ADDED THAT US COULD NOT ACCEPT ROMANIAN IDEA OF DETAILED AGENDA WITH "DEADLINES" FOR CONSIDERATION OF INDIVIDUAL ITEMS; THIS, HE POINTED OUT, WOULD LIMIT RIGHT OF ALL CCD MEMBERS TO ADDRESS TOPICS THEY CHOSE AT TIME THEY CHOSE. G-R SAID HE AGREED WITH MARTIN ON THIS POINT.

6. MARTIN THEN ASKED G-R FOR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF LATTER'S PROPOSAL AT FEB 17 CCD PLENARY THAT "SUBCOMMITTEE" BE ESTABLISHED. G-R REPEATED CONCEPT THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBCOMMITTEE WOULD BE LIKE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WEAPON-FREE ZONES WHICH CONDUCTED STUDY UNDER CCD ASUPICES LAST SUMMER. AD HOC COMMITTEE, ACCORDING TO G-R, HAD "WORKED" WITHOUT ENCUMBERING CCD ITSELF; SUBCOMMITTEE COULD DO SAME IN TAKING UP SPECIFIED TASKS, E G, CONSIDERING SOVIET PROPOSAL ON NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS AND PERFORMING FINAL DRAFTING ON ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION CONVENTION. MARTIN NOTED THAT HE HAD DOUBTS ABOUT A PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE AND THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR SUBCOMMITTEE TO INITIATE PROJECTS; G-R DISCLAIMED ANY SUCH IDEA.

7. MARTIN CONCLUDED DISCUSSION BY STATING WE HOPED FOR AGREEMENT ON PROCEDURES WITHIN CCD BY END OF SUMMER SESSION, ENABLING REPORT ON AGREEMENT TO 1976

UNGA. G-R SAID HE WOULD DO ALL HE COULD TO PROMOTE THIS RESULT
FROM HIS NEW VANTAGE POINT IN CAPITAL. DALE

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